

Plainfield Libraries Board of Trustees
Minutes of July 20, 2026 Meeting at Meriden Library (ML)

Present:

Trustees: Mike Adams (MA), Rosemary Mills (RM), Michelle Feller-Kopman (MFK)

FOPRML: Nancy Norwalk (NN), via Zoom;

FOML: Kassi Sarantopoulos (KS) , via Zoom.

Library Director: Jim Allen (JA)

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm by MA. MA: three of five Trustees present [roll call]. No adjustments to meeting agenda.

No public comment.

Minutes from the June15, 2026 Plainfield Libraries (PL) Library Board of Trustees meeting were unanimously approved.

Correspondence: JA reported receipt of two donations from the Hanover Garden Club (HGC), one in the amount of \$75 to PRML and the other in the amount of \$50 for ML. These donations were made on behalf of Hanover Garden Club members who live in Plainfield with the intent to further gardening education. MFK will write a thank you note to the HGC on behalf of PL BoT.

Report from FOPRML by NN: FOPRML had a float in town Fourth of July parade, Touch a Truck program for August is moving along as planned,

FOPRML book sale to take place on September 19 and 20, the puzzle competition is October 4, the workshops have been full with waitlists, last month there was a hand pottery making workshop.

Recruiting for Library Director position: Since the June PL Trustees meeting, JA communicated to the Trustees in writing his intent to accept a Library Director position at the Claremont Library pending background check approval. Jim will give PL BoT formal notice once the background check is approved and continue in his role at PL for an additional four weeks from the time of formal notice. PL BoT intends as smooth a transition as possible and began a conversation about a job description, where to post it online and in the Upper Valley community as well as considering an interim director and where the Trustees may need to pitch in to continue PL administration and services during this transition. MA made a motion to form a Recruiting Committee to include all five BoT Trustees, which was seconded by MFK and unanimously approved. This committee will meet in early August to plan for the Library Director search and transition.

Report from FOML by KS: Plant sale in May was a big success, Wildlife summer program needed to be rescheduled due to high heat. Date is TBD, hoping for August. Also in August will be the Good Humor truck, which is always well-attended. FOML scheduled to meet on Tuesday July 21 to plan upcoming events.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Devan Tracy reported by email to the Trustees prior to this meeting that the Plainfield Libraries (PL) budget is on target 51% spent at 53% through the year. Utilities are still projected for a \$3K+ overrun by year end although this does not account for any solar offsets we should see.

Director's Report: June was an active and successful month for the Plainfield Libraries, highlighted by the launch of the 2026 Summer Reading Program, continued participation in recurring programs, and a variety of educational, recreational, and community events. The library offered 28 recurring program sessions during the month, providing consistent opportunities for learning, wellness, recreation, and community engagement. Recurring programs included Meditation Monday, Yoga, Tai Chi, Homeschool Group, Play Cribbage, Board Gaming Club. These programs continue to serve patrons of all ages and foster regular library use and community connections. June featured several well-attended special events including: Sound Bath, Moose Talk, Friends Group Movie Watching, *Inside Out 2* family movie screening. On June 17, the library officially launched the 2026 Summer Reading Program, encouraging readers of all ages to participate throughout the summer and helping prevent learning loss while promoting lifelong reading habits. The library continued to serve as an important community gathering place by hosting: PRML Friends Meeting, Friends of the Meriden Library (FOML) Meeting, Board of Trustees Meeting, Plainfield Democratic Committee Meeting. The library also supported community traditions by hosting a rehearsal for the Plainfield Fourth of July Parade Band. Planning continues for additional Summer Reading activities and programs throughout July, with a continued focus on providing engaging educational opportunities, supporting literacy, and serving as a welcoming community hub for residents of all ages.

Non-public session not needed.

Adjournment at 6:38pm by MA.

Next PL BoT Meeting: Monday August 17 at 6pm at PRML.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Feller-Kopman

DRAFT